

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-13 and 15-20 are pending. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

1. (Original.) A coated particle comprising a coating and a core particle comprising an active, wherein the coating comprises a gas phase component.
2. (Original.) The particle of claim 1, wherein the gas phase component constitutes at least 20 % by volume of the coating material.
3. (Original.) The particle of claim 2, wherein the coating material including the gas phase component has a true density below 0.8 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.
4. (Previously presented.) The particle of claim 1, wherein the gas phase component is confined within a light sphere.
5. (Previously presented.) The particle of claim 1, wherein the coating further comprises one or more matrix materials selected from the group consisting of waxes, polypeptides, and carbohydrate polymers.
6. (Original.) The particle of claim 5, wherein the wax is a polyethylene glycol.
7. (Original.) The particle of claim 5, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of gelatine, collagen, casein, chitosan, polyaspartic acid and polyglutamic acid.
8. (Original.) The particle of claim 5, wherein the carbohydrate polymer is selected from the group consisting of pectin, starch, modified starch, cellulose, modified cellulose, carrageenan, gum Arabic, acacia gum, xanthan gum, locust bean gum and guar gum.
9. (Original.) The particle of claim 1, wherein the gas phase component is atmospheric air, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, or a noble gas.
10. (Original.) A composition comprising the particle of claim 1.

11. (Previously presented.) The composition of claim 10, which is a detergent composition and further comprises a surfactant.

12. (Original.) The composition of claim 10, which is a dough composition and further comprises a flour.

13. (Previously presented.) A method for preparing the particle of claim 1, comprising the following steps:

- (a) applying a coating material comprising a gas phase component to a core particle,
- (b) applying a second coating material comprising a gas generating component to a core particle and
- (c) treating the coated particles so as to generate a gas from the gas generating component.

14. (Cancelled.)

15. (Currently amended.) The method of claim 13, wherein the gas generating component is a volatile component and the treatment is heating.

16. (Currently.) The method of claim 13, wherein the gas generating component is bicarbonate and the treatment is an acid treatment.

17. (Original.) A method of claim 13, wherein step (a) comprises:

- (i) providing a coating feed comprising a coating material, a gas phase component and optionally a solvent, at a pressure above atmospheric pressure,
- (ii) applying the gas-containing coating feed to a core particle in a coating chamber,
- (iii) releasing the pressure wholly or partly to atmospheric pressure, wherein said pressure release can be performed before or after step (ii).

18. (Original.) The method of claim 17, wherein in step a), the pressure is from  $2 \times 10^5$  Pa to  $5 \times 10^7$  Pa.

19. (Original.) The method of claim 17, wherein the pressure release is performed in one step.

20. (Original.) The method of claim 17, wherein the pressure release is performed in at least one primary and one secondary step.

Claims 21-37 (Cancelled.)